

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for delivering a supply of gases to a user comprising or including:
 - a patient interface, adapted to be in fluid communication with said supply of gases and said user, said patient interface being in at least a correct orientation and position on said user,
 - headgear adapted to attach to or around the head of said user, and
 - a flexible sliding strap attached to between said headgear and capable of sliding over said patient interface.
2. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a nasal mask.
3. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 2 wherein said nasal mask comprises or includes a body portion having an inlet receiving said supply of gases, and sealing means attached to or integrated with said body portion said sealing means adapted to seal against the facial contours of said user.
4. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 3 where said sliding strap is a low resistance strap slidingly connected ~~on, through, adjacent or~~ with said patient interface and adapted to allow said headgear substantial movement with respect to said nasal mask, while still providing compressive force on said sealing means to ensure said supply of gases is delivered to said user without significant leakage.

5. (Canceled)
6. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said strap is elongate having a first end and a second end, a first at least partial loop located at said first end and a second at least partial loop located at said second end, whereby in use said headgear is substantially permanently attached to said first loop and substantially attached but readily releasable from said second loop.
7. (Currently Amended) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface further comprises or includes at least one restraining means on said body portion, said restraining means adapted to in use restrain said ~~strap~~ strap, but allow said strap to slide longitudinally over said patient interface, said restraining means adapted to in use easily disengage with said sliding strap.
8. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a nasal cannula.
9. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a full face mask.
10. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is a mouthpiece.

11. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said patient interface is an entotracheal tube.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Previously Presented) A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein said sliding strap is moulded from polyacetal.
14. (Original) A device as claimed in any one of claims 8 to 11 wherein said headgear includes a low resistance sliding loop slidably connected on, through, adjacent or with said patient interface.
15. (Original) A device as claimed in claim 14 wherein said sliding loop comprises a looped nylon filament.
16. (Currently Amended) A nasal mask for delivering gases to a user comprising or including:
- a body portion having an inlet, in use said inlet receiving a supply of gases,
 - headgear adapted to attach to or around the head of said user
 - abutting means engaged with said body portion for abutting against the facial contours of said user,
 - a flexible sliding strap capable of sliding over said nasal mask and attaching to said headgear, and

engaging means for providing a sliding engagement with said sliding strap, and a compressive force on said abutting means.

17. (Previously Presented) A nasal mask as claimed in claim 16 wherein said engaging means comprises or includes restraining means to in use restrain said strap but allow said strap to slide longitudinally over said patient interface, said restraining means adapted to in use easily disengage with said sliding strap.

Claims 18-23 (Canceled)